

# **CHAPTER 1**

**THE BEGINNINGS:**

**COUNCIL,**

**COUNTY,**

**AND**

**COMMUNITIES**

## **AN INTRODUCTION TO MENDOCINO COUNTY**

Mendocino County is located in California's north coast region, bounded by the Pacific Ocean to the west, Sonoma County to the south, Lake County to the southeast and east, Glenn and Tehama Counties to the east and northeast, Trinity County to the north and east, and Humboldt County to the north. The borders with Glenn and Tehama Counties are completely within the Mendocino National Forest in the county's northeastern portion.

Within an area of 3,510 square miles, Mendocino County's elevation runs from sea level at the ocean to 6,954 feet atop Anthony Peak, near the Tehama County border. Inland from 129 miles of magnificent coastline, the environment is as varied as the terrain. World-class vineyards thrive in the southern valleys, and stands of redwoods and Douglas-firs tower down from the Pacific Coast Range. Numerous mountain peaks over 6,000 feet grace the northeastern portion of the county and bear snow caps until early summer. Oak woodlands on rolling hills are scattered throughout the county.

The county is characterized by steep slopes, with the main ridges oriented north-northwest to south-southeast. Rivers and streams are abundant, some flowing year round and others drying up in the summer. The mighty Eel River drains to the north and the Russian River to the south. Rivers west of the first divide inland from the coast, just west of the Highway 101 corridor, drain basically east to west, to the ocean. These include, from south to north, the Gualala River North Fork, plus the Garcia, Navarro, Albion, Big, Noyo, and Ten Mile Rivers.

The county's mountains and hills are interspersed with nine distinct valleys:

- Potter Valley in the east central portion
- Round Valley to the northeast, with Covelo in its center
- Leggett Valley in the north, with the communities of Leggett and Piercy
- Long Valley south of Leggett, with Laytonville at its center
- Little Lake Valley in the county's center, surrounding the City of Willits
- Redwood Valley, just north of the Ukiah Valley
- Ukiah Valley in the south central area, with the City of Ukiah at its center
- Anderson Valley in the central western portion, including the towns of Yorkville, Boonville, Philo, and Navarro
- Sanel Valley in the south, with the community of Hopland

The population of Mendocino County is currently estimated at 88,000, with an overall density of only 25 persons per square mile. The majority of residents live in and around the valleys along Highway 101, which winds through the county from south-southeast to the north-northwest for

106 miles. Other population centers include the dozen or so communities along Highway 1, which travels the coast from the county's south end until it turns inland about 30 miles north of Fort Bragg and joins Highway 101 at Leggett. These towns are, from south to north, Gualala, Anchor Bay, Point Arena, Manchester, Irish Beach, Elk, Albion, Little River, Mendocino, Caspar, Fort Bragg, Cleone, Westport, and Rockport.

The county includes only four incorporated cities: Ukiah with approximately 15,000 residents, Willits with 5,000, Fort Bragg with 7,000, and Point Arena with 500. The rest of the county's local governments are special districts of various kinds, including community service districts, fire districts, water districts, and others established to provide specific services. The nature of governance relative to local fire protection services will be discussed in Chapter 2.

Wildland subdivisions and continuous areas of Wildland-Urban Interface or Intermix are predominant around the population centers, and these are likely to increase in size and number. Recent and upcoming improvements on Highway 101 make Mendocino County more and more attractive to persons desiring a rural lifestyle while commuting to work in Santa Rosa and even the San Francisco Bay Area.

One of the county's largest employers is agriculture, especially considering the trickle-down effect on other businesses dependent on agriculture. Commercial fishing is important to the coastal communities, especially Fort Bragg. Cottage industries, tourism, and recreation, along with the timber industry, round out the commercial character of the county. Light and heavy industry is in place, but inroads have been slow due to space, transportation, and environmental concerns. Governmental and nonprofit organizations are also large employers. Ukiah, the county seat, offers hundreds of jobs relative to government and public services, contains the county's largest concentration of medical and legal services, and hosts an ever-increasing number of large retail stores, motels and hotels, and restaurants.

Land use in Mendocino County includes agriculture (predominantly wine grapes and pears), timber production (Douglas-fir, coast redwood, ponderosa pine, sugar pine, and hardwoods), livestock production, and recreation. Cultivation of marijuana, either illegally or now legally for "medical" purposes, is prevalent in remote areas and contributes to the local economy. It at times presents a hindrance to fire safety efforts, however, due to the growers' desires to conceal their locations, as will be discussed in Chapter 4.

Mendocino County enjoys a Mediterranean climate, with dry summers during which typically no rain falls from early June to late October. The weather can vary greatly on the same day in different parts of the county. An average summer day may find the coastal areas at 60 degrees and inland temperatures at 90 to 105 degrees. The warmer the Sacramento Valley becomes, the deeper fog intrudes from the ocean up the coastal drainages, and the windier the inland valleys become. Diverse microclimates benefit from having four seasons and 40 to 100 inches of annual

rainfall, depending on the location, elevation, and weather patterns. The declared fire season in Mendocino County typically lasts from early June to mid or late October.

Vegetative fuel types in the county consist of grass, oak woodlands, brush, mixed chaparral, timber, and cut-over slash. Few areas of Mendocino County have not been harvested for timber in the past. Brush is usually composed of chamise on the south and west facing slopes and mixed chaparral on the north and east facing slopes. ***Mendocino County has seen very few large wildfires in the past several decades, resulting in a massive build-up of wildland fuels ready to burn.*** A majority of Mendocino County is in federal Condition Class 3 and Fire Regime III, with some areas in Regimes II and IV. Further data on factors influencing wildfire behavior are included in later sections of this Plan.

## **THE MENDOCINO COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL**

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, Inc. (MCFSC), was founded in 2003 by Colin Wilson, then President of the Mendocino County Fire Chiefs Association, and Julie Rogers, after they and many others had worked successfully to retain funding for the CDF Air Attack (firefighting) Base at the Ukiah Regional Airport. In discussing the fire situation in Mendocino County, Wilson, Rogers, and others agreed that a pro-active, community-based effort toward wildland fire safety was needed in Mendocino County. A primary motivation for starting the Council was the realization that county residents tend to rely too heavily on fire suppression resources without taking responsibility for their own safety, thus putting both themselves and firefighters in harm's way needlessly.

The first meeting toward creation of a fire safety effort, held in September 2003, was attended by ten local and CDF fire chiefs, who decided that a Fire Safe Council was the best format for such an effort. Such Councils, they learned, already existed in all their neighboring counties. In November 2003 four county residents attended a regional Firewise Communities workshop, at which they realized that local Fire Safe groups working under the umbrella of a county-wide organization was the best working model for this county.

The Council's first grant application was a success: it was awarded ArcView GIS mapping software through a Firewise Communities competition and thus became one of only five groups in California – and 27 nationwide – to be named Firewise “ArcView Communities.” This success gave the Council national recognition as an emerging wildfire safety organization, and has resulted in ongoing assistance from Firewise Communities.

In January 2004, the MCFSC held its first official meeting. Later that month the Council's first educational outreach meeting attracted an incredible response of 90 persons, who donated \$1,200 toward establishing the Council. The Council was incorporated in March and in April its Bylaws were approved. The majority of the initial Directors were fire

professionals, but measures were taken to ensure that soon the majority would be interested citizens, as is the intent for Fire Safe Councils and is now the case in the MCFSC.

Julie Rogers served as the MCFSC's volunteer Coordinator and Secretary until January 2005, when she was hired as Executive Director, courtesy of a Bureau of Land Management "Startup grant." The Council's first office was located in the Ukiah Valley Fire District station at 1500 S. State Street, courtesy of Chief Dan Grebil and his generous staff. The MCFSC now has an office in the Willow Water District's building at 151 Laws Avenue in Ukiah, next door to the Fire District.

## **MCFSC'S GOALS AND MISSION**

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council is a coalition of individuals, businesses, and public and private agencies who share the goal of preventing loss of life, destruction of property, and damage to the environment caused by wildfire. The Council seeks to establish a broad partnership of stakeholders who will pool their resources and energies to pursue this common goal for the common good. The formal goals of the Council are:

- Work to minimize losses to values at stake, which include but are not limited to human lives, homes, animals, and natural resources;
- Educate residents, agencies, and other stakeholders about the nature and impacts of wildfire, fire prevention strategies, and effective preparedness in the event that wildfire occurs;
- Secure and utilize funding to assist residents in education, outreach, community projects, and other activities that further the mission and objectives of the Council;
- Encourage road associations, homeowner groups, subdivisions, towns, and other community groups to create their own Fire Safe Councils; and
- Act as an advocate for the people of Mendocino County in the area of fire prevention.

The MCFSC's broader vision for the future is described at the end of this Plan, and work is underway to create a comprehensive 5-Year Plan for its activities.

## **OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

President: George Britton, co-founder of the Pine Mountain Fire Safe Council

Vice President: Colin Wilson, Chief, Anderson Valley Fire Department

Secretary: Suzanne Guido, Robinson Creek Road Association

Treasurer/CFO: Mike Jani, Chief Forester, Mendocino Redwood Company

Robert Bruce, Editor/media consultant, survivor of Oakland Hills Fire

Kelly Elder, DRA Consultants; Chair, Rancho Navarro Safety Committee

Ronda Gott, Mendocino County Air Quality Management District

Steve Leonard, Assistant Chief, Hopland Volunteer Fire Department

Angie Lish, North Coast Emergency Response Specialist, Pacific Gas & Electric Co.  
Hal Wagenet, Third District Supervisor, Mendocino County  
Jim Wattenburger, Second District Supervisor, Mendocino County (alternate)

## **LOCAL FIRE SAFE COUNCILS**

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council encourages road associations, homeowner groups, subdivisions, towns, and any housing clusters to create their own local Fire Safe Councils. These groups need not have a formal or legal structure; they need only the desire to make themselves fire safe and to educate and encourage their neighbors to do the same. The MCFSC is available to – and does -- assist local Councils in these ways:

- Leading or participating in local educational events
- Providing educational materials for local distribution
- Connecting local Councils with Fire Safe service providers and vendors, other Councils, and anyone else who can assist their efforts
- Seeking grant funding for vegetation reduction or address signage projects
- Providing financial services such as holding trust funds or administering grant monies
- Generally assisting with administrative, business, financial, and legal functions, leaving local groups free to do on-the-ground projects and education

Local Fire Safe Councils already functioning or currently being organized are:

**Brooktrails, Sylvandale & Spring Creek Fire Safe Council (BS&SC FSC)**, in Planning Zone 1, was formed in January 2004 under the leadership of community members Bob Whitney, Barbara Willens, Sue Crawford, Jerry Garvey, and Richard Jergerson, with active involvement of Mark Tolbert, CDF Battalion 2 Chief, and the consistent support of Mike Chapman, General Manager of the Brooktrails Township. Brooktrails as a whole, and its subdivisions, are considered by fire professionals to be “a disaster waiting to happen.” The BS&SC FSC is not waiting for the disaster but is preparing to prevent and/or survive it.

This group, small but mighty, was the moving force behind the successful Brooktrails Township Fire Program grant application, submitted on their behalf by the county-wide Fire Safe Council. \$73,054 for fire planning and evacuation route vegetation removal will be received from BLM in 2006. Creation and refinement of that project saw extraordinary collaboration between the BS&SC FSC, CDF, MCFSC, and the Brooktrails Township Board of Directors, Fire Chief, Prevention Officer, and General Manager. The BS&SC FSC was also a partner in creation of a full-color evacuation brochure for their area in 2005. Details of that remarkable project – the first in the County – are given in Chapter 2’s description of the Brooktrails Fire Department.

**Pine Mountain Fire Safe Council (PMFSC)**, also in Planning Zone 1, is led by Lauren Robertson, Lynn Dee Johnson, George and Kathy Britton, Pat Collins, and other creative and energetic persons. Pine Mountain Estates is a Wildland-Urban Intermix community of 304 households distributed primarily on the western slopes of Pine Mountain, five miles east-southeast of Willits. It is under threat of a significant vegetation fire, as many lots are impacted by dense mixed forests of fir, oak, and madrone, and the roads are encroached by forests and extensive grass and brush.

The PMFSC was formed in June 2004 to educate their community about these hazards and to help mitigate them by encouraging residents to create “defensible space” around their homes and install proper address signage. Evacuation is a major concern, as many portions of Ridgewood Road, a paved county road which branches off into single-lane, unpaved private roads, are steep with no shoulders. CDF and PMFSC personnel are investigating areas which could serve as safety zones if evacuation were to become impossible; and CDF Captain Bill Baxter is preparing a detailed pre-fire plan for the area. In late 2005 the PMFSC and CDF collaboratively began major vegetation reduction around Pine Mountain’s water reservoir.

**Rancho Navarro Safety Committee**, at the northern end of Anderson Valley, is headed by Kelly Elder, an MCFSC board member.

**Other Anderson Valley communities** beginning Fire Safe efforts are Sky Ranch, Yorkville Ranch, Nash Ranch, Holmes Ranch, and “Smootville” toward the south end of the valley.

**Robinson Creek Fire Safe Council** southwest of Ukiah, led by Lillian Hoika and Sheryl Greene, is working on mapping, identifying and preparing safety zones, and establishing a phone tree. Details of their work are included in the CDF Battalion 3 report in Chapter 3.

**McNab Ranch Fire Safe Council** northwest of Hopland, formed in 2004 and led by Liz Phillips Heath, Hopland Assistant Fire Chief Steve Leonard, and others, has created a project for mapping and improved road signage for their area, which is at severe risk of wildfire.

Other Local Fire Safe Councils are being formed, and their names and work will be included in future versions of this Plan. The MCFSC and fire personnel in Mendocino County are very grateful to these dedicated groups who are performing an enormous amount of work toward making their Wildland-Urban Interface communities more “fire safe.”

## **CREATING THE PLAN**

A **Planning Collaborative** of 32 persons representing a broad range of interests provided overall direction for this Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Its members included persons in leadership positions with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), North Coast Resource Conservation & Development Council (RC&D), Mendocino Emergency Services Authority (MESA), Mendocino County Air Quality Management District, Pacific Gas & Electric Company, the county's largest timber landowner, a land conservancy, and other eminent persons and entities. A complete list is included in the Acknowledgements at the end of this chapter.

A **Core Team** of six persons implemented the Planning Collaborative's directives, made decisions in keeping with those directives, and took further actions as required during the Plan's creation. The Team consisted of four persons from the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, including the President of the County Fire Chiefs, and two from CDF.

## **THE CWPP AND CDF UNIT PLAN AS ONE DOCUMENT**

As the membership of the Core Team suggests, creation of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan was primarily a cooperative effort of the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council and CDF's Mendocino Unit, with input from local government fire departments and others. At its first meeting in January 2005, the Planning Collaborative concluded that the Plan should be a blending of the CDF Mendocino Unit Wildfire Management Plan with further information gained and processed as needed to meet the requirements of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Reasons for this decision were three. (1) The boundaries of Mendocino County and the Mendocino Unit are nearly the same. (2) The CDF Unit had already amassed much of the data needed. (3) CDF management in Sacramento had indicated in late 2004 its desire that CDF Units expand their Wildfire Management Plans into Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Although in April 2005 that requirement was withdrawn due apparently to an acknowledgement that joint Plans might be difficult to create, Unit Chief Loyde Johnson elected to continue pursuing a joint Plan; and MCFSC and CDF staff continued efforts toward that end as originally directed.

The Handbook for Wildland-Urban Interface Communities entitled "Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan," in its Step Five, lists five risk factors to be considered in the creation of a Community Risk Assessment: fuel hazards; risk of wildfire occurrence; homes, businesses, and essential infrastructure at risk; other community values at risk; and local



preparedness and firefighting capability. Data collection and presentation of all these factors was a joint effort of CDF and MCFSC.

## **GEOGRAPHICAL PLANNING STRUCTURE**

At the first Planning Collaborative meeting, it was determined that, for CWPP purposes, the county's communities would be grouped into Planning Zones equivalent to the Mutual Aid Zones utilized by local emergency response personnel. Resources within a Mutual Aid Zone are called upon by local emergency responders -- fire and medical alike -- when a fire or other emergency exceeds the response capability of the local agency. These zones generally follow watershed boundaries and correlate closely with CDF battalions. The comparison is as follows:

**Mutual Aid Zone / Planning Zone 1:** North and northeast areas of county  
CDF Battalions 1, 2, and 4

Towns and fire departments: Covelo, Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville, Leggett, and Piercy  
Watersheds: Eel River, including North Fork, Middle Fork, and South Fork

**Planning Zone 2:** Southeast and central portion of county  
CDF Battalion 3

Towns and fire departments: Ukiah, Redwood Valley, Hopland, and Potter Valley  
Watersheds: Russian River, plus Eel River north of Potter Valley

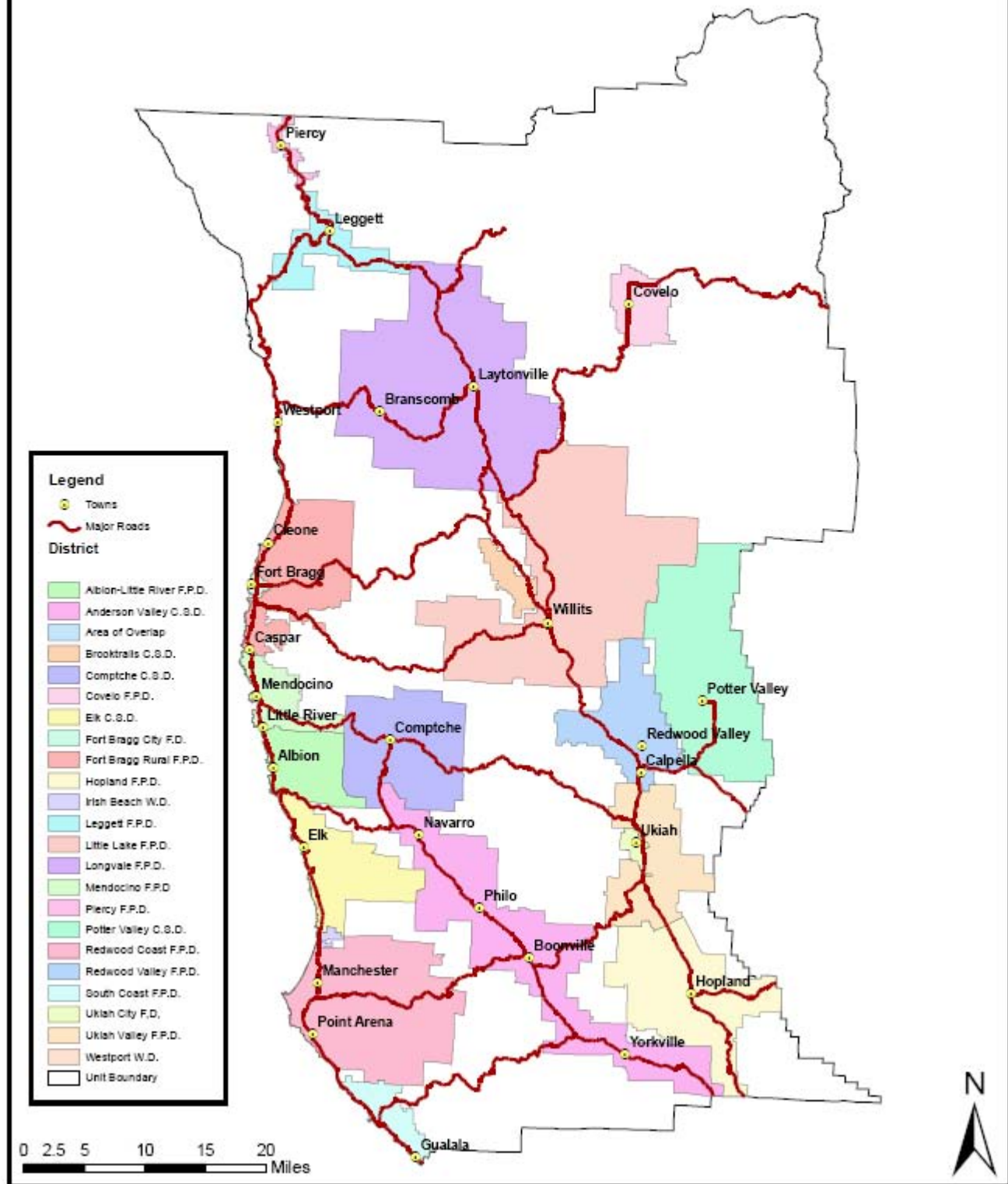
**Planning Zone 3:** Southwest area of county  
CDF Battalion 5

Towns and fire departments: from Anderson Valley, including Yorkville, Boonville, Philo, and Navarro, to Gualala, Point Arena, Manchester, and Elk on the South Coast  
Watersheds: North Fork Gualala, Garcia, Russian, and Navarro Rivers, and Dry Creek

**Planning Zone 4:** West central and coastal region of county  
CDF Battalion 6

Towns and fire departments: Albion, Little River, Mendocino, Fort Bragg, and Westport on the coast, plus Comptche nine miles inland of Mendocino  
Watersheds: Albion, Big, Noyo, and Ten Mile Rivers, and Salmon Creek

# Local Government Districts



## AN ONGOING PROCESS: UPDATING THE PLAN

The Handbook mentioned above recommends eight steps in preparing a CWPP:

- 1) Convene decision-makers
  - 2) Involve federal agencies
  - 3) Engage interested parties
  - 4) Establish a community base map
  - 5) Develop a community risk assessment
  - 6) Establish community hazard reduction priorities and recommendations to reduce structural ignitability
  - 7) Develop an action plan and assessment strategy
  - 8) Finalize the CWPP
- ... plus providing for ongoing updates

This Plan is primarily a blending of previously-gathered and recently-updated CDF Mendocino Unit data with fresh, local, grass-roots input. Assessment and analysis of the data is not as complete and refined as the partners would have preferred; however, this Plan is only the first edition of a CWPP which will be updated, improved, and enlarged yearly as fire planning efforts in Mendocino County develop and mature.

Each year the following, at a minimum, will be performed to update this CWPP:

- Further input and participation will be sought from local fire departments so the Plan may benefit from their experience and expertise.
- The Fire Safe Council, in conjunction with local fire departments and CDF, will sponsor outreach meetings throughout the county to gain a better understanding of assets at risk, levels of risk, community values, existing natural and manmade fuel breaks, priorities for projects, and other pertinent data.
- Local communities will be encouraged and supported to form their own Fire Safe Councils, reduce their wildland vegetative fuels, create accurate local maps, and determine practical plans for being safe during a wildfire. Such information, as appropriate, will be appended to future editions of this county-wide Plan.
- CDF personnel will update their Unit and Battalion data, analyses, plans, and reports.

Additional collaboration and ideas will be pursued as described in Chapter 4.

## DOCUMENTATION OF THE PLANNING PROCESS

All actions related to seeking collaborators, setting up meetings, gathering data, actions taken at meetings, names and contact information of meeting attendees, and other efforts to create this Plan have been meticulously documented, because *this Plan is intended to become part of a future Mendocino County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, as required by the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000*. Such a Plan will address all natural disasters which could

impact Mendocino County. Detailed reports on meetings of the Planning Collaborative and the Core Team, plus many other records, are available from the MCFSC.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETINGS: GAINING COLLABORATION AND INFORMATION**

The minimum requirements for a CWPP as described in the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 are (1) Collaboration, (2) Prioritized Fuel Reduction, and (3) Treatment of Structural Ignitability -- plus the agreement and sign-off of local government, local fire departments, and the state entity responsible for forest management, which in this case is CDF.

CWPP guidance documents identify “collaboration” as pertaining to local and state governments, federal agencies, and “other interested parties.” In the spirit of the National Fire Plan, the California Fire Plan, and the Western Governors’ 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy, *the Planning Collaborative decided to facilitate and emphasize inclusion of the ideas and concerns of the County’s most important “other parties,” namely its rural residents most at risk to devastation by wildfires.*

Because of this desire to emphasize “grassroots” collaboration, upon direction of the Planning Collaborative and further refinement by the Core Team, the MCFSC undertook to hold meetings around the county to make contact with, and gain information from, persons living in Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) communities. Twelve cities and towns were ultimately identified as population centers that would allow almost all the county’s residents to attend a meeting with a maximum 30-minute drive. Holding so many meetings required significant time and effort, but the Core Team wished to make attendance as easy as possible and thereby to ensure true grassroots involvement and ownership in the Plan.

The meetings proved even more valuable than anticipated, not only because of the depth of information gathered from local residents but also because strong contacts were made with wildfire-conscious persons all over the county. The MCFSC will maintain ties with these persons, toward establishing local Fire Safe Councils and, in conjunction with local fire departments and CDF, identifying and performing needed fire safe activities, including prioritized vegetation reduction projects.

In addition, friendships were made and bonds established between the MCFSC and local fire chiefs and firefighters. Meeting facilitators were highly impressed with the knowledge, concern, energy, determination, perseverance, and sacrifice of rural volunteer firefighters who serve their communities faithfully, often with outdated equipment and small numbers of personnel. Chapter 2 describes each of these departments.

The towns in which meetings were held, and the dates, are as follows:

<b>COMMUNITIES INCLUDED</b>	<b>MEETING LOCATIONS</b>	<b>DATES</b>
<u>Mutual Aid / Planning Zone 1</u>		
Covelo/ Dos Rios	Covelo U.S.F.S. Station	May 9
Willits/ Brooktrails/ Pine Mountain	Brooktrails Fire Station	April 20
Laytonville/ Branscomb	Laytonville Fire Dept. Hall	May 2
Leggett/ Piercy (2 meetings)	Leggett School Cafeteria	April 5 & 26
<u>Mutual Aid / Planning Zone 2</u>		
Ukiah	Ukiah Valley Fire District	April 19
Redwood Valley	Redwood Valley Fire Station	April 12
Hopland/ McNab Ranch	Hopland Elementary School	March 29
<u>Mutual Aid / Planning Zone 3</u>		
Anderson Valley: Yorkville/ Boonville/ Philo/ Navarro	Boonville Fire Station	March 22
Point Arena/ Gualala/ Elk/ Manchester	Point Arena Veterans Hall	April 25
<u>Mutual Aid / Planning Zone 4</u>		
Mendocino/ Fort Bragg/ Albion/ Little River/ Comptche	Mendocino Fire Station	April 28
Westport	Westport Fire Station	May 4

The remarkable data, concerns, and ideas gathered from these meetings are listed in Chapter 3, Part 2, which is organized by Mutual Aid Zones and CDF Battalions. Appendix B of this Plan contains an extensive list of WUI Communities in each Zone as provided by local residents. Additional thoughts and conclusions are given in Chapter 4.

The MCFSC and CDF were unable to raise local interest for a meeting in only one targeted town: Potter Valley. We hope to gain input from that area's residents for inclusion in future revisions of this Plan.

## **COMMUNITY MEETING FORMAT**

The format for the community meetings was created by the Core Team. Each meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with an introduction to the Fire Safe Council's mission, an explanation of the concept of Wildland-Urban Interface/Intermix (WUI) communities, and a description of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and why one is needed. Most meetings ended with fire safe education and motivation given by a local or CDF fire chief. Several pieces of fire safe literature, and extra copies for neighbors, were sent home with attendees. A 4-page educational Wildfire Risk Assessment, adapted from an assessment created by Firewise

Communities, based on California Public Resources Code sections 4290 and 4291, and addressing the realities of Mendocino County, proved to be an especially helpful tool.

The middle portion of each meeting was used to gain three kinds of information:

- Names and locations of WUI communities. These were taken verbally and written on large sheets of paper posted on the walls. One long-time local fire chief commented that this process informed him about housing clusters of which even he was unaware. These WUIs are listed in Appendix B.
- Assets at risk in each community, as perceived by attendees. These were written on questionnaires completed by participants and collected at the end of each meeting. The results are given in Chapters 3 and 4.
- Concerns -- and ideas for resolving them -- written by participants with large markers on colored sheets of paper which were posted on a “sticky wall.” The sticky wall, which was quite popular, consisted of a large piece of cloth covered with spray adhesive, allowing sheets to be placed on it and grouped together as desired by attendees. These concerns and ideas are listed at the end of each CDF Battalion report in Chapter 3.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**The Planning Collaborative** consists of the persons who attended organizational meetings on January 4 and February 23, 2005. This list is alphabetical and includes affiliations as they were at the time of the meetings.

Tara Athan	Coordinator, Mendocino Coast Weed Management Area
Blaine Baker	District Ranger, Upper Lake and Covelo Districts, Mendocino National Forest, U.S. Forest Service
Scott Barr	CalTrans; Board Member, MCFSC
George Britton	MCFSC President; Co-Chair, Pine Mountain Fire Safe Council
Rich Burns	Ukiah Field Office Manager, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Bob Ceriani	Battalion Chief, Prevention Bureau, Mendocino Unit, CDF
Jim Dawson	Fire Management Officer, Ukiah Field Office, BLM
Todd Derum	Battalion Chief, Battalion 3, CDF
Kelly Elder	Rancho Navarro Safety Committee; MCFSC Board Member
Ronda Gott	Mendocino County Air Quality Management District
Dan Grebil	Chief, Ukiah Valley Fire District
Chuck Heath	President, Allen-Heath Memorial Foundation; McNab Ranch Road Association

Liz Phillips Heath	Allen-Heath Memorial Foundation; McNab Ranch Road Association
Mike Jani	Chief Forester, Mendocino Redwood Company; MCFSC founding Board Member
Loyde Johnson	Mendocino Unit Chief, CDF; Mendocino County Fire Warden
Steve Leonard	Assistant Chief, Hopland Volunteer Fire Department; MCFSC founding Board Member
Angie Lish	Emergency Response Specialist, PG&E; MCFSC Board Member
Clare Nunamaker	Consulting Forester; MCFSC Board Member
Rick Paige	Executive Director, Mendocino Emergency Services Authority (MESA, the County Office of Emergency Services)
Julie Rogers	Executive Director, MCFSC
Richard Shoemaker	President, Green Lion Landscaping; former County Supervisor; MCFSC founding Board Member
Stephen Smith	District Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
Kate Symonds	Coordinator, North Coast Resource Conservation & Development Council
Jon Teutrine	Fuels Management Specialist, U.S. Forest Service
Stevie Thomas	Manager, Fire Safe Yard Services, a local fuels reduction business
Craig Titus	Fire Captain Specialist, Pre-Fire Engineer, CDF
Mark Tolbert	Battalion Chief, Battalion 2, CDF
Jeff Tunnell	Fire Prevention Technician, U.S. Forest Service
David Vincent	Fire Prevention Patrol, Covelo District, U.S. Forest Service
Bob Whitney	President, Golden State Land Conservancy; Chair and founder, Brooktrails, Sylvandale & Spring Creek Fire Safe Council
Colin Wilson	President, Mendocino County Fire Chiefs' Association; Chief, Anderson Valley Fire Department; Vice-President, MCFSC

**The Core Team** met multiple times during January through August 2005. Its members:

George Britton	MCFSC President
Kelly Elder	MCFSC Board Member
Julie Rogers	MCFSC Executive Director
Colin Wilson	MCFSC Vice-President
Craig Titus	CDF Pre-Fire Engineer, responsible for yearly creation of the Mendocino Unit Wildfire Management Plan
Mark Tolbert	CDF Battalion Chief, appointed by Unit Chief Loyde Johnson as his liaison to the CWPP effort

Three MCFSC Core Team members maintained regular contact with the Chiefs of both local fire departments and CDF, including at meetings of the County Fire Chiefs' Association, soliciting their information and involvement, and reporting on Plan progress.

**Facilitators for the public outreach meetings** were George Britton, Mark Tolbert, Todd Derum, Colin Wilson, Steve Leonard, Tara Athan, Steve Smith, Kelly Elder, and Julie Rogers. Ms. Elder, who professionally facilitates public meetings, trained all facilitators free of charge and contributed the “sticky wall” concept.

**CDF Unit Plan overview sections** in Chapter 3, Part 1, were provided by Unit Chief Loyde Johnson and Pre-Fire Engineer Craig Titus. **CDF Battalion reports** in Chapter 3, Part 2, were contributed as follows, with positions listed as held in Spring of 2005:

- Battalion 1: Battalion Chief Bob Rodello
- Battalion 2: Battalion Chief Mark Tolbert
- Battalion 3: Battalion Chief Todd Derum and Captain Brian Kornegay
- Battalion 4: Battalion Chief Larry Grafft
- Battalion 5: Battalion Chief Dean Watson and Captain Pam Linstedt
- Battalion 6: Battalion Chief Dean Watson

**The primary authors and compilers of this Plan** were (1) Craig Titus of CDF, who compiled all CDF fire data; facilitated participation by CDF Battalion Chiefs; created all maps, charts, and graphs at both the Unit and Battalion levels; and assembled the Plan; and (2) Julie Rogers of MCFSC, who compiled data about local fire departments; gathered descriptions of proposed fire safe projects; wrote most of Chapters 1, 2, and 4; determined how the material would be blended into one document, and served as overall editor.

Special thanks are due to Chief Dan Grebil and his gracious staff at the Ukiah Valley Fire District for making their training room available for Fire Plan meetings. Other persons who contributed to this Plan are noted in Chapter 3's descriptions of the community meetings.